

## **Minutes of the Berwyn & District u3a AGM held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at Canalfon Ni, Corwen at 2p.m.**

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from: Diana Grimwood-Jones; Elena Williams; Andrew Jedwell; Fransis Guyon; Helen Guyon; Beti Collinge; Simon Collinge; Heather Burnley; Ogwen Thomas; and Brenda White-Owen

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes from the previous AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 were read and agreed.

### **3. Treasurer's report**

Rhiannon Jedwell, the Treasurer, informed members that there is currently £2969.21 in the bank. Hire of the room in Canalfon Ni, Corwen, costs £42 per session. The cost of speakers is getting quite tight. We need more members to come to Open Meetings to cover the cost of the room and speaker.

### **4. Chair's Annual Report**

Sheila Cox, Chair, reported that we have had an enjoyable and successful year. Following our recruitment campaign, membership has risen to forty-nine people. We have enjoyed a good programme of monthly talks by great speakers on interesting topics. Sheila thanked Diana and Helen, her colleagues on the Open Meeting talks Programme Planning team. She also thanked the leaders of our ten active interest groups, which are all operating to the satisfaction of their leaders and members. Sheila extended her thanks to: the committee for their work; Fransis for the posters; Helen for organising the tea rota; Clive for maintaining our Facebook page; and Pete for his work on Beacon and Siteworks. She also thanked members for donating two kilograms of unused foreign currency to Mary's Meals.

### **5. Membership Secretary's report**

The Membership Secretary, Hilary Dodd, reported that we have nine new members, bringing our total number of members to forty-nine. A couple of good recruitment events at Llangollen and Corwen libraries have raised awareness of our u3a and contributed to the increase in membership.

### **6. The Future of Berwyn u3a**

Clive Ashton led a discussion of how members can contribute to building the future of the u3a. He noted that the fact the group is a lively community that has been developed over nine or ten years is testament to how well everybody has been doing. Further growth of the membership would help sustain the u3a: new members would bring more skills and ideas and increased membership would also help with costs.

Clive asked us to help bring in new members by telling friends about the u3a. He stressed that we need to be visible: our Facebook page is raising our profile in the community, for instance. He asked members to send him photographs of u3a activities to post on Facebook. He also suggested if members have a particular passion or skill, they could consider starting an interest group around it.

He asked those present for ideas about how to increase the membership. Members' suggestions included: being visible in local villages on a Saturday; trying to recruit more people from Corwen, our local centre; and promoting the u3a on local radio and/or in a newsletter. To increase our funds, it was suggested that we could raise the price on the door for non-members at Open Meetings; and we could apply for local grants, for example those connected to the installation of wind turbines in the area.

#### **7. Election of Executive Committee**

Sheila Cox informed members that she is stepping down from her role as Chair and from the committee. We thanked Sheila for all she has done in this role over the past year and over previous years as a committee member.

Nominations for re-election were received for: Clive Ashton; Karin Capp; Hilary Dodd; Rhiannon Jedwell and Joanna Price. These nominations were unanimously agreed.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

Mo Edmonson updated members on forthcoming Random Trips to Port Sunlight and Leominster.

At the next Open Meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> September, Alison Utting will give a performance based on the autobiography of Agnes Hunt.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.35pm.